

Message Text

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12
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INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

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DRAFTED BY PM/ISO: FJFLEMINGS:ML

APPROVED BY PM/ISO: JD STODDART

CNO/OP61 - CAPT ZETTEL

OSD/ISA/I-A CAPT. GOODEN

OSD/ISA/EUR - MR. LLOYD

OSD/GC - MR. ALLEN

EUR/NE - MR. FLOYD

PM/ISO - MR. HAGERTY

PM/AE - LTC HABLAS (INFO)

----- 123465

R 302243Z APR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL HAMILTON

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

OSD

CNO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 088638

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, EGEN, BD, UK

SUBJECT: BRIDGE ACROSS BERMUDA'S GREAT SOUND

REF: HAMILTON A-45

1. HAMILTON'S A-45 OF OCTOBER 11, 1973, REPORTED A POTENTIAL PROBLEM OF FUTURE ACCESS TO THE US NAVAL AIR STATION IF A PROPOSED BRIDGE FROM IRELAND ISLAND TO HAMILTON IS CONSTRUCTED. A LETTER OF SEPTEMBER 12, 1973 TO THE DEPUTY GOVERNOR ASKED FOR THE ATTITUDE OF US AUTHORITIES TOWARD THIS PROPOSAL.

2. AS THE CONSULATE GENERAL IS AWARE, THE NAVY IS PHASING OUT, AND PLANS TO RETURN TO BERMUDAN AUTHORITIES, LARGE CONFIDENTIAL

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SECTIONS OF THE NAS ANNEX. HOWEVER, THE NAVY WILL REQUIRE

FOR THE INDEFINITE FUTURE ACCESS TO THE POL STORAGE FACILITIES AND PIER AT THE ANNEX FOR NAVY SHIPS. SUCH ACCESS WOULD BE BLOCKED FOR ALL BUT VERY SMALL VESSELS BY THE TYPE OF BRIDGE WHICH IS BEING PROPOSED. FYI. IN ORDER TO ASSURE CONTINUED ACCESS FOR US NAVY VESSELS, WE UNDERSTAND THAT A MORE EXPENSIVE BRIDGE WOULD HAVE TO BE CONSTRUCTED, BUT WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THE US GOVERNMENT SHOULD IN ANY WAY BE RESPONSIBLE FOR SUCH ADDITIONAL COSTS. END FYI.

3. THE CONSUL GENERAL SHOULD THEREFORE INFORM THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES OF THE BERMUDAN GOVERNMENT THAT FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE THE US WILL REQUIRE ACCESS BY US NAVAL VESSELS TO THE NAS ANNEX. IN VIEW OF THE LOCAL CONSIDERATIONS OUTLINED IN THE REFERENCE AIRGRAM, HE SHOULD ALSO STATE THAT THE US HAS NO OBJECTION TO A BRIDGE BEING CONSTRUCTED, PROVIDED THAT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LEASED BASES AGREEMENT OF 1941, ACCESS TO THE NAS ANNEX IS NOT IMPEDED. RUSH

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